



A place where families and businesses thrive.

FOREST GROVE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ADOPTED BYLAWS

Section 1: Parks and Recreation Commission (herein referred to as P&R)

Section 2: Established by Council Resolution No. 1974-733, February 11, 1974.

Section 3: Purpose

1. The purpose of the advisory B/C is to encourage broad-based community representation and to advise City Council on public policy issues affecting Forest Grove and Council-adopted Goals and Objectives. The B/C is directly responsible to the Council.
2. To advise and make recommendations to the City Council on parks and recreation programs, planning and facility development.

Section 4: Powers and Responsibilities/Objectives

1. To advise the City Council on matters pertaining to all parks and recreation programs, planning and facility development.
2. To represent community interests and input in promoting a system of parks, recreation facilities, trails and programs that serves the entire community, reflects the character of Forest Grove and protects our natural resources.

Section 5: Organization and Structure

1. Membership:
 - a. Members of the B/C shall be composed of nine members and one student member who shall be appointed by City Council.
 - b. Two members may reside outside of corporate limits of the city.
 - c. One member from each of the five areas of the City (NNW = Forest Glen, Knox Ridge, and Thatcher Parks; NW = Lincoln, Hazel Sills, Aquatic Center, and Talisman Parks; SW = Rogers Park; SE = Joseph Gale Park; and NE = Bard and Stites Parks); one member from the School District; three members at-large, and one student member.
 - d. Members are required to attend training courses as assigned and approved by City Council.
 - e. An individual member may not act in official capacity.

- f. The City Council may in its discretion at any time remove a member for any reason, including inefficiency, neglect in duty, or malfeasances in office.
 - g. B/C members serve without compensation.
- 2. Terms of Office:
 - a. B/C members shall be voting members and shall serve four (4) year terms.
 - b. Student member shall be a voting member and shall serve a two (2) year term. Student appointee must be high school grade level and residing or attending school, including home-schooled, in Forest Grove.
 - c. Terms shall be staggered evenly amongst the membership, beginning January 1 and ending December 31.
 - d. Once the assigned term of office is completed, the member is excused from the appointment unless City Council reappoints the member for another term of service.
 - e. B/C members must apply during open recruitment and be interviewed by City Council after each term to continue service. B/C members who fail to attend a scheduled interview may forfeit the opportunity for appointment or reappointment.
 - f. Members may not serve on more than two (2) B/C at the same time.
 - g. Appointments to vacant positions shall be filled by City Council for the unexpired term.
- 3. Officers:

The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected by the voting members at the first regularly scheduled B/C meeting of each year.

The Chair may not serve more than 48-consecutive months.
- 4. Powers and Duties of Officers:

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, at a meeting where a quorum is present, the member with the longest continuous service shall serve as Presiding Officer pro tem until such time the meeting is adjourned.

 - (1) Chair shall:
 - a. Preside over and facilitate all meetings, preserve order, enforce rules and determine the order of business.
 - b. Compose the meeting agenda in consultation with the staff liaison, specifying the time, place and purpose of the meeting and listing the subjects anticipated to be considered.
 - c. A B/C member may propose placing an item on the agenda at a regularly scheduled meeting. If approved by a majority of voting members present, the agenda item will be placed on the next regularly scheduled meeting agenda or an agreed upon future meeting agenda.
 - d. The agenda shall follow a standard template provided by the City.

- e. Ensure that all actions are properly taken and recorded and, if required, sign findings and decisions.
- f. Present recommendations to the City Council and other bodies as designated by the Mayor, Council, or Council Liaison.
- g. The Chair shall submit and present an Annual Report to the City Council listing the B/C's major activities for the past year and objectives for the coming year.

(2) Vice Chair shall:

Preside in the absence of the Chair and acts as Chair when the Chair is unable to perform duties.

Section 6: Meeting Procedures and Quorum

1. Meetings:

- a. Unless otherwise required by state law or city code, the B/C shall hold meetings no less than four (4) times a year unless more frequently as established by the B/C.
- b. In January of each year, the B/C shall adopt a schedule of its meetings and schedule its Annual Report presentation to City Council for the upcoming year, including meeting dates for holidays and canceled meetings.
- c. The B/C meeting agenda and packet shall be distributed to the B/C at least five (5) days prior to the meeting.
- d. All meetings are open to the public. Anyone wishing to speak to the B/C may do so under *Citizen Communications*. In the interest of time, comments may be limited to three (3) minutes unless additional time is granted by the presiding officer.
- e. The student member may provide a report at every meeting.
- f. A public meeting is defined as two (2) or more members meeting who have been delegated authority by the B/C to advise or make recommendations to the B/C.
- g. Special meetings may be called by a vote of the B/C at any regularly scheduled meeting, by the request of the Chair, Council Liaison, or written petition by three (3) or more B/C members.
- h. All meetings and hearings shall be held at a designated date, place and time in compliance with Public Meetings Law (ORS Chapter 192) and subject to Public Records Law (ORS Chapter 192).

2. Minutes:

- a. The B/C may appoint a secretary at the first regularly scheduled B/C meeting of each year to take the B/C meeting minutes.
- b. Written minutes are required for all meetings.
- c. The minutes shall follow a standard template provided by the City.

- d. The meeting minutes shall briefly summarizing what took place and must include: 1) any action items, 2) attendance, and 3) vote of each member. Verbatim minutes are not required.
 - e. Staff may take minutes if the B/C requests the City to do so.
 - f. Staff shall review the minutes to assure compliance with state law.
 - g. Staff shall post the B/C approved minutes to the website as soon as possible.
3. Attendance:
- a. Members are expected to attend every meeting.
 - b. Members shall notify the staff liaison prior to the regular meeting to report an absence.
 - c. The Chair, with the consent of the B/C, may submit a recommendation to City Council to deem a member's position vacant for three (3) or more absences in a 12-month period.
 - d. The City Recorder's Office shall notify any member who has three (3) or more absences in a 12-month period that their position may be subject to vacancy.
4. Quorum:
- Unless otherwise required by state law, a majority of the total number of voting B/C members constitutes a quorum.
5. Voting and Decision Making:
- a. *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern all proceedings unless they conflict with these rules.
 - b. The Chair has the right to vote whenever a vote is cast. In the case of a tie vote with the Chair voting, the motion fails.
 - c. The B/C shall operate in the general public interest serving the community as a whole. The B/C shall serve no special interest(s) or endorse any commercial product or enterprise.
6. Conflicts of Interest and Ethics Law:
- a. B/C members are considered public officials subject to the Oregon Government Ethics Law (ORS 244), which seeks to prevent a public official from receiving financial gain or avoiding a financial detriment because of their status as a public official.
 - b. B/C members are subject to the Restrictions on Political Campaigning when acting in official capacity (ORS 260.432).
 - c. A civil penalty may be imposed by the State for each violation of any provision of the ORS.
7. Role of Council Liaison:
- a. The Council liaison shall be appointed by the Mayor, with the consent of the City Council, and shall be a non-voting member.
 - b. Council Liaison's role is to collaborate between the City Council and the B/C to assure each group's collective interest is accurately and

effectively represented to the other, including actively attending and reporting to each entity at their regular scheduled meetings.

- c. The Council Liaison shall have the freedom of the floor at all times to present Council's views and to comment or suggest actions to the B/C.

8. Role of Staff Liaison:

- (1) The staff liaison shall be appointed by the City Manager and shall be non-voting. The staff liaison shall assist the B/C by utilizing their expertise regarding city policy and process.

- (2) The staff liaison shall:

- a. Orient newly-appointed members prior to the first meeting on the duties and responsibilities of being a B/C.
- b. Review the agenda in consultation with the B/C Chair. The agenda shall follow a standard template provided by the City.
- c. Prepare, post and distribute the B/C packet at least five (5) days prior to the meeting. Post the final agenda on the bulletin board at the meeting location.
- d. Prepare B/C meeting minutes, briefly summarizing what took place and must include any action items, attendance and vote of each member.
- e. Report any member who has three (3) or more absences in a 12-month period to the City Recorder's Office.
- f. Additional staff liaison duties and responsibilities may be found in the Council Rules, Section 14.

9. Registry:

The City Recorder's Office shall maintain a current roster of all members, including appointment date, length of unexpired term, and contact information. The roster may be subject to Public Records Law (ORS Chapter 192). A copy of the roster shall be provided to Council and staff liaison at least once per year or upon any substantial change in membership.

10. Amending Bylaws:

- a. A majority of all members must vote affirmatively to modify the B/C bylaws on at least two separate readings at two separate meetings.
- b. A final decision on a bylaw change shall not be made until at least the next regular meeting following the introduction and second of the motion.
- c. All bylaws or rules, including changes, must be approved by the City Council.
- d. Bylaws shall follow a standard template provided by the City.